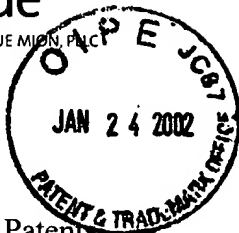




SUGHRUE MION, P.A.C.



January 24, 2002

**BOX CPA**Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 202313652  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037-3113T 202.293-7080  
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JAN 30 2002

**GROUP 3600 16**

Re: Application of Tsutomu SAWA, Hiroyuki TAKENOSHITA, Hirohide  
KOMATSU  
FEED BELT  
Assignee: **IBM CORPORATION, KRD CORPORATION**  
Our Ref: Q52359

Dear Sir:

This is a request for filing a Continuation Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (continued prosecution application (CPA)) of pending prior Application No. 09/170,225 filed on October 13, 1998 of Tsutomu SAWA, Hiroyuki TAKENOSHITA, Hirohide KOMATSU entitled FEED BELT.

This application is being filed under 37 CFR § 1.53(d). The prior application, in which no payment of the issue fee, abandonment, or termination of proceedings has occurred, is hereby expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this new application. It is understood that secrecy under 35 USC § 122 is hereby waived to the extent that if information or access is available to any one of the applications in the file jacket, be it either this application or a prior application in the same file jacket, the Patent and Trademark Office may provide similar information or access to all the other applications in the same file jacket.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 3652.

Enter the Amendment previously filed on October 24, 2001 under 37 CFR § 1.116, but unentered, in the prior application.

The power of attorney appears in the original papers of the prior application.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	1997-282359	10/15/1997

The priority document was filed in parent Application No. 09/170,225.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>9</u> - 20	=	<u>          </u>	x	\$18.00	=	<u>          </u>	\$0.00
Independent claims	<u>4</u> - 3	=	<u>1</u>	x	\$84.00	=	<u>          </u>	\$84.00
Base Fee								\$740.00

**TOTAL FILING FEE****\$824.00**

01/29/2002 CNGUYEN 00000003 194860 09170225

01 FC:131	740.00 CH
02 FC:102	84.00 CH



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Commissioner for Patents

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Please charge the statutory fee of \$824.00 or credit any difference to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

A Petition and payment for an extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith in Application No. 09/170,225. The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

John F. Rabena

Registration No. 38,584